

REMARKS

By the above amendment, claim 1 has been amended to clarify features of the present invention.

The Examiner now identifies claim 1 as a linking claim, it being recognized that claim 1 is an independent parent claim with respect to dependent claims 2 - 4. The Examiner requires restriction between Invention I, now identified as claims 2 and 5 - 7, and Invention II - claims 3, 4 and 8 - 13, recognizing that claim 2 of Invention I and claims 3, 4 of Invention II depend directly or indirectly from claim 1. Thus, applicants submit that upon allowance of claim 1, at least claim 2 of Invention I and claims 3, 4 of Invention II must be considered together and determined to be allowable. Accordingly, applicants request withdrawal of the restriction requirement.

However, in order to provide a complete response to the requirement, applicants provisionally elect, with traverse, Invention I, which necessarily includes linking claim 1 and claims 2 and 5 - 7 for further consideration at this time.

The Examiner additional indicates that if Invention I is elected, applicants must elect one of the alleged patentably distinct species identified by the Examiner as Species (1) and Species (2) in the manner set forth in paragraph 6 at page 4 of the office action. This position by the Examiner is not understood because the specifics as identified by the Examiner both include a liquid crystal display panel and a light guide plate sequentially arranged. Accordingly, the election of species requirement is not understood and should be withdrawn.

Hereagain, in order to provide a complete response to the election requirement, which is not understood, applicants provisionally elect, with traverse, Species (1) and submit that at least linking claim 1 and claim 2 of Invention I are considered to be readable thereon.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, applicants request withdrawal of the restriction and election requirement and favorable action with respect to all claims present in this application.

To the extent necessary, applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 501.43641X00), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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